

SCOTT SUGGESTS CHANGES IN ARMY GENERAL STAFF

Stating that legislation which prevented an efficient general staff organization in the American army was responsible for costly delays when war started and recommending radical changes in the system of command Maj. Gen. Hugh L. Scott, as chief of staff, submitted his annual report to Secretary of War Baker yesterday. Since the report was written General Scott has retired.

An act of Congress of June 3, 1916, provided that fifty-five officers should be appointed to the general staff, but that not more than one-half of them could be on duty in Washington at any one time. In the European armies hundreds of officers of all grades were on the general staff, studying conditions so that when war was declared they had only to set a machine in motion. When war was declared in the United States, said the chief of staff, it was necessary to first organize the general staff in this country before the war work could be well organized. It placed a serious handicap on the army, he said, in not having sufficient well-trained officers from the War College ready to be attached to commands and begin the necessary instructions.

The chief of staff also stated that there was a serious lack of co-ordination in the United States Army, which must be eliminated if the greatest success is to be achieved. Instead of all lines of Army activity converging in the general staff, he says they merely run parallel to it, and there is a possibility of question of authority. He recommends that the general staff absorb the Adjutant General's office and the duties of separate chiefs for Infantry, Cavalry, Field and Coast Artillery; the centralization of command by the Secretary of War through the Chief of Staff; intensive instruction of more General Staff officers, and that the field of responsibility of the Chief of Staff be generally broadened.

MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE PARK

AN attractive home section — attractive the whole year 'round.

Massachusetts Avenue Park is within the city limits, and offers all city conveniences.

Choice Home Sites, 45c to \$1.65 per ft. Ask For Prospects.

John W. Thompson & Co.
Incorporated
Director of Sales,
728-32 15th St.

Sales Agents
Randall H. Hagner & Co.,
1207 Conn. Ave.
STORY & COBB,
1112 Conn. Ave.
W. J. PILLING,
1405 Eye St.

2-PLATOON PLAN SURE, BROWNLOW TELLS FIREMEN

That the two-platoon system for Washington's fire fighters will have the unanimous support of both houses of Congress was the unqualified prediction of Commissioner Louis Brownlow at a meeting of the District Firemen's Association last night.

District firemen are happy today. Not since they began their fight long ago for relief from their twenty-four-hour day has the outlook for success been so bright. They hope soon to have an opportunity to know their families. Commissioner Brownlow, acclaimed by the firemen as their champion, has given them the word that they have for years hoped to hear.

"I believe the two-platoon system for the District Fire Department will have the unanimous support of both houses of Congress," said Commissioner Brownlow. "But the fight is not yet won. We must put the facts and conditions fairly before the congressional committee in charge of the matter. When we do that, I know that Congress can be depended upon to act wisely and well."

Meeting Enthusiastic.

The room in Perpetual Hall, at Eleventh and E streets northwest, where the firemen met, was fairly alive with suppressed enthusiasm before the Commissioner arrived last night. The largest number of husky firemen that had ever attended a meeting there was present. It was said. Chairs had to be brought from every part of the building to seat the men. One-half of the entire fire fighting force of Washington was there. They were waiting with suppressed excitement for Commissioner Brownlow, their champion, with news from the front. Many of them did not know the Commissioner, they said. These did not remain long to inquire about him, and what he had done for them.

It was announced that the Commissioner was coming. Big hands flamed the cigar and pipe smoke from the room. The Commissioner appeared at the door. He walked gingerly up and said, "Howdy-do, Mr. Brownlow. Come in." Two hundred voices and two hundred pairs of hands gave welcome. Mr. Brownlow smiled and bowed and took all the hands he could, but he couldn't roar "Thank you" like two hundred men, and he couldn't take two hundred hands at once.

"Man We All Love."

He took the platform and was introduced by R. E. Oden, president of the Firemen's Association, as the "man that we all love." Another tumult showed that "love" must have been the right word. They all seemed to feel that Commissioner Brownlow had good news. He explained that during the last few days he had needed a two-platoon system himself, and could, therefore, sympathize with the firemen more than ever.

"To introduce the two-platoon system in Washington is one of the main things that we are asking Congress to do this year," said Mr. Brownlow. "The Commissioners did not ask for increased salaries for the firemen this year. Instead, we asked for better working conditions. When a man asks his employer for shorter hours and more pay at the same time, he is pretty likely to get turned down on both, so we asked for shorter hours this time."

"Our progress in getting better working conditions for our firemen and policemen has not been so great as in some other cities. Yet, we have made great progress. Last year the firemen were the only District employees that got an increase in base and percentage pay. Of course the two-platoon system is the first thing we are after. When we get that we are going to get better houses for many of the stations. There will also be a great effort made to secure more motor trucks. Motor trucks make the fire fighting more efficient in that more territory can be covered by one station. It would decrease the cost of apparatus, because not so many

FIGHT ON WATER POWER TO REACH A CLIMAX SOON

The ten-year fight over water power development will reach a climax soon after the new year in the House when conservationists mass their forces to defeat or amend the Shields bill passed this week by the Senate.

The Senate was persuaded to pass the measure by the argument that President Wilson in his message to Congress advocated legislation for development of water power.

Conservationists led in the House by Congressman Ferris of Oklahoma declare the measure would rob the people of the country of their rights in navigable streams, at the same time producing huge fortunes for private interests.

What Bill Provides.

The bill gives the Secretary of War the power to grant any person or corporation the right to build a dam across any navigable stream. At the end of fifty years the Government may get back its rights in the stream together with the dam, by paying a "reasonable" price to be fixed in court.

President Wilson has been represented as favoring this form of legislation.

"The President favors a water-power development bill," said Senator Hollis, New Hampshire, "but I doubt very much that he favors the Shields bill in its present form."

"Conservationists in both Houses hold that the Government should get back the public rights together with all improvements at the end of the fifty-year term, by paying the

Congress Wants Facts.

"Do not try to represent yourselves as suffering firemen, or anything like that. It has been my experience that Congress is interested in facts—nothing else. This is a thing that is of infinite interest to your families as well as to yourselves. It is also vital to the citizens whose lives and property are in your hands. It is most encouraging to know that all the citizens' associations are with you. I said 'with you.' I started to say, 'with me.' We will not argue the question, but say, 'with us.'"

"With all these things in our favor, I do not see how we can fail to have the unanimous support of both houses of Congress."

When Commissioner Brownlow finished speaking, the two hundred firemen formed in line and each shook hands with him. They said that they had many things to thank him for. After round and round of applause in recognition of his services, the Commissioner was obliged to go to other work. Burst after burst of shouting and applause followed him down the steps to the street. It was exciting. Commissioner Brownlow's smile showed both that he felt repaid for what he had done and that he was determined to finish winning "our" fight.

Secret Session Follows.

A secret session of the association followed.

Capt. Edward O'Connor, of No. 10 fire truck, explaining the tumultuous reception that had been given the words of Mr. Brownlow when he told The Times reporter that the Commissioner had exactly expressed the sentiments of Washington's firemen in his talk, and that he always had in his actions. He said that there were 302 firemen in Washington, and that their average pay for twenty-four hours' work every day was \$35 a month.

MEETS DEATH IN PISTOL DUEL WITH POLICEMAN

CHICAGO, Dec. 15.—"Prof." J. H. Ellis, of Omaha, statue artist, was shot and killed in a revolver duel with a policeman in the lobby of the Loyal Hotel here early today. Ellis is believed to have been deranged.

Liberty Bonds Worth \$19,000 Stolen From Bank In Portland, Ore.

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 15.—Theft of \$19,000 worth of Liberty bonds from the Northwestern National Bank has been made public after an unnamed person has presented the coupons for collection.

The theft was committed some time ago, but, having the numbers, the bank awaited presentation of the coupons.

amount of capital originally invested plus interest.

Wait To Reap Benefits.

"The capitalists, however, want to reap the benefits of increased population and general progress to which they contribute little if anything."

"The question involved is that which enters into the valuation of all public utilities. Conservationists hold the balance of power in the House and doubtless will be able to amend the bill so that it will result in water-power development without jeopardizing the public interests."

ACTOR IS ACCUSED OF POISONING GIRL

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—Accused of administering a narcotic which resulted in the death of Miss Lillian Goldburg, eighteen years old, in a furnished room, Matthew McGovern, twenty-one years old, an actor, is locked up at police headquarters on a charge of homicide. The girl's body was found early in the morning. After several hours' grilling, McGovern admitted the police say, that he had been in her company the night before.

Get That Overcoat



In order to keep warm and be cleverly styled, buy a reasonably priced product of the house of

Kuppenheimer

Hundreds of nobby patterns for the young fellow—and the man of conservative taste. Finest tailoring and quality that is unusual in these times.

\$22.50 to \$40.00

Full line of Kuppenheimer Evening Dress Clothes and accessories.

Headquarters
for Officers'
Uniforms

THE STORE WHERE QUALITY COUNTS
GROSNERS
1013 PENNA. AVE. N.W.

BUY
WAR
SAVINGS
STAMPS

Gifts of Jewelry That Combine Beauty and Utility



FOR LADIES

Wrist-Watches—standard American Movement—\$16.50 to \$100

Cluster and Solitaire Diamond Rings—\$25 to \$500

Genuine "Du Barry" Ivory Brush, Comb and Mirror—\$10

Solid Silver Vanity Cases—artistically monogrammed—\$10 to \$35

Cameo Brooches; fine cut cameos mounted in solid gold—\$5 to \$30

Solid Gold Lavallieres—eye-alluring of design—\$2 to \$25

Solid Silver Manicure Sets—appropriately cased—\$5 to \$25

Solid Gold Bracelets—\$4 to \$40

Solid Silver Brush, Comb and Mirror Sets—\$12 to \$35

Watches—30-yr. gold-filled hunting case, Elgin or Waltham movements—\$12

Solid Silver Dorian Boxes—with daintily enameled lids—\$2 to \$6

All-Diamond Brooch—of striking brilliancy—\$200

Solid Gold Band and Chain Bracelets—handsomely engraved or plain—\$4 to \$40

Very Heavy Solid Gold Hunting-case Watch—patterns almost innumerable—Waltham or Elgin movements—\$15

Cut Glass Water Sets—pitcher, six glasses and reflector—\$10 to \$30

After-Dinner Sets—six solid after-dinner coffee cups and saucers—\$20

Shelf Silver Cake Baskets—of especially artistic design—\$6

Open-Face Watches—very small—fine American movements—\$10

Brooches of Gold and Pearls—some with diamond centers—\$10 to \$50

Brooches that are representative of the very best of jewel craft, in gold and platinum and diamonds—\$75 to \$400

Mantle and Boudoir Clocks and Masque Drawing Room Timepieces—\$5 to \$150

Fairfax Silver in a thousand-and-one choice suggestions for buffet and table service.

Princess Rings—magnificent assemblages of diamonds in platinum mountings—\$50 to \$150

FOR GENTLEMEN

Complete line of Military Wrist Watches—standard American movements—exclusively—\$15 to \$35

Ingersoll Radiolite Wrist Watches—\$4.50

Khaki Waterproof Army-style Toilet Kits—\$5.00

Waldemar Vest Chains—in newest effects—\$3.50 up

Solitaire Diamond Rings—stones of exceptional beauty and brilliance—\$75

Cigarette Cases—solid silver—double row capacity—\$5.00 up

Swagger Sticks—\$1.50 up

Gillette Army and Navy Razors—\$5

Harvone Cigarette Cases of Solid Silver—\$10 up

Waterman Fountain Pens—\$2.50 up

Watches—14-kt. solid gold, open face, Elgin movement—\$16.50

Stone-set, Solid Gold Rings, in compellingly attractive array—\$5.00 up

Belt Buckles—good, heavy, sterling silver, monogrammed to your order; belts of fine quality leather—\$2.00

Gold Belt Buckles—with belts—\$10 up

Diamond and Sapphire Scarf Pins—unusual values as low as—\$70

Heavy Solid Gold Signet Rings—\$5.00 up

Cuff Links—double, for soft cuffs—new designs—\$3.50

Watch Fobs—again the vogue and shown here in new and fashionable designs—\$5.00 up

Solid Gold Tie Clips—\$1.00 up

Solid Gold Cigar Cutters—to be carried as watch chain pendants—\$3.50 up

STORE
OPEN
EVENINGS
UNTIL
CHRISTMAS.

SEE OUR
UNEXAMPLED
SHOWING OF
DIAMONDS

R. HARRIS & CO.,
The Jewelers
Seventh and D Streets

ELGIN, HAMILTON,
WALTHAM, HOWARD
AND GRUEN
WATCHES.

FURS

Extraordinary Sale Of Balance of Stock to Be Sold

The following Bargains will be sold:

\$15 Genuine Wolf Scarf...\$8.98
\$20 Genuine Wolf Scarf...\$10.50
\$25 Genuine Wolf Set...\$17.50
\$30 Genuine Wolf Scarf...\$18.50

In Taupe, Battleship Gray, and Black.
\$15 Wolf Muff...\$7.98
\$8 and \$9 Coney Muff...\$5.00

In this sale we have high-priced
RACCOON, NUTRIA, HUDSON SEAL,
and SKUNK MUFFS and SCARFS,
To Be Sold at

Sacrifice Prices

I. B. HARTZ

734 7th Street N.W.



SEE OUR
UNEXAMPLED
SHOWING OF
DIAMONDS